

Message Text

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TAGS: US, PINT, PFOR, XM

SUBJECT: AMERICAN NEWS AND COMMENT

1. HIGHLIGHTS. MONDAY MORNING PAPERS FRONTPAGE SKYLAB
POISED FOR LAUNCH; NYTIMES FRONTPAGES DEAN TIED TO PLAN TO
SPY ON 1972 PROTESTS; BALTSUN FRONTPAGES NEWSWEEK SAYS DEAN
MADE NO REPORT ON WATERGATE, WAS NEVER ASKED FOR ONE.

1 A. NYTIMES HAS ROGERS CONFERS WITH ECHEVERRIA, PAGE 16;
BALTSUN HAS ROGERS TELLS US PLANS FOR DESALTING MEXICALI
WATER, PAGE 2.

1 B. NYTIMES FRONTPAGES QADDAFI DECLARES NATION HAS SACRED
RIGHT TO NATIONALIZE RESOURCES IN ITS SOIL, SEES OIL BECOM-
ING ARAB WEAPON. WASHPOST FRONTPAGES HOAGLAND TRIPOLI,
QADDAFI ACCUSES US OF STAGING BEIRUT RAID. INSIDE BALTSUN
HAS LIBYA CALLS HIRING OF ISRAELIS BY AMERICAN OIL GROUP A
DESPICABLE ACT. INSIDE NYTIMES REPORTS ISRAELIS EXPAND
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ARAB VISIT POLICY PERMITTING ARRIVALS THROUGHOUT YEAR.
WASHPOST HAS LARGE AD BY EURABIA COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERED IN
PARIS CALLING ON NIXON TO CURB ISRAELI EXPANSION.

1 C. INSIDE BALTSUN WASHPOST HAVE MOSCOW STORIES, RUSSIA
FORESEES GAINS FOR TROOP- CUT TALKS IN VIENNA. BALTSUN
REPORTS HEATH ENCOURAGES US BID FOR BETTER COMMART TIES.
LITTLE COMMENT.

2. ROGERS. BALTSUN MEXICO AP REPORTS ROGERS CARRIED TO
ECHEVERRIA A US PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE THE QUALITY OF COLORADO
RIVER WATER WHOSE SALINITY HAS BROUGHT DEVASTATION TO
FARMERS IN MEXICO VALLEY, ROGERS SAYING RECOMMENDATIONS OF
BROWNELL GROUP, APPROVED BY NIXON, CAN LEAD TO PERMANENT
AND JUST SOLUTION OF BIGGEST PROBLEM BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES,
AND BROWNELL IS READY TO COME TO MEXICO TO REACH AGREEMENT.
AP SAYS ROGERS DECLINED TO DISCUSS DETAILS WITH PRESS
EXCEPT TO SAY PLAN WOULD INVOLVE A CONSIDERABLE EXPENDITURE
BY US AND QUALIFIED OBSERVERS TOLD AP THEY GUESSED BROWNELL
PLAN WOULD REDUCE SALINITY TO 1,000 PARTS PER MILLION ACRE-
FEET THROUGH A 50 TO 70 MILLION DOLLAR US PROJECT OVER
NEXT TEN YEARS. AP SAYS WHEN MEXICAN JOURNALIST ASKED
ROGERS IF HE AGREED WITH DULLES THAT US DOESN' T HAVE
FRIENDS, JUST INTERESTS, ROGERS REPLIED: JOHN FOSTER
DULLES HAS BEEN DEAD A LONG TIME; NO, WE DON' T FEEL THAT
WAY ANY MORE. AP SAYS ROGERS IS STRESSING ON TRIP THAT US
HASN' T FORGOTTEN ITS OLD HEMISPHERE FRIENDS DESPITE PEKING,
MOSCOW, YEAR OF EUROPE.

2 A. NYTIMES SEVERO STRESSES ROGERS GAVE ECHEVERRIA DETAILS
OF DESALINIZATION PLAN AND TOLD SUBSEQUENT NEW CONFERENCE
PLAN WOULD MEAN EXPENDITURE OF A GOOD DEAL OF MONEY BY US,
BUT THERE WAS NO IMMEDIATE INDICATION OF WHAT ECHEVERRIA
THINKS ABOUT IT. SEVERO SAYS AFTER ECHEVERRIA'S VISIT LAST
JUNE TO WASHINGTON STEPS WERE TAKEN BY THE AMERICANS TO
REDUCE SALINITY BUT IMPROVEMENT WAS NOT ENOUGH TO SATISFY
MEXICANS AND ROGERS TERMED PRESENT PLAN A PERMANENT,
DEFINITIVE AND JUST SOLUTION, ROGERS SPENT AN HOUR 45
MINUTES WITH ECHEVERRIA DISCUSSING WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS,
INCLUDING ILLEGAL ENTRY OF 450,000 MEXICAN WORKERS ANNUALLY
INTO US. ACCORDING SEVERO ROGERS TOLD REPORTERS
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SALINITY STUDY GROUPS OF TWO COUNTRIES WILL BE IN CONSUL-
TATION OVER NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS IN EFFORT TO REACH AGREE-
MENT.

3. BEIRUT RAID. WASHPOST HOAGLAND TRIPOLI REPORTS
QADDAFI ACCUSED US OF UNILATERALLY STAGING RAID ON BEIRUT
IN WHICH THREE PALESTINIAN LEADERS WERE ASSASSINATED,

PRESIDENT SAYING HE HAD INFORMATION THAT AMERICAN TROOPS CARRIED OUT APRIL 10 RAID AND ISRAEL'S ONLY ROLE WAS TO PROVIDE A SMOKE SCREEN FOR THE OPERATION BY CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR IT. HOAGLAND SAYS US HAS STRONGLY DENIED SUCH ACCUSATIONS, WHICH ORIGINATED WITH PALESTINIANS, AND QADDAFI'S IGNORING OF AMERICAN DEMANDS THAT ARAB LEADERS NOT REPEAT THE CHARGE IS LIKELY TO HEIGHTEN ALREADY GROWING AMERICAN- LIBYAN TENSIONS. HOAGLAND ADDS THAT IN HIS 5 AND HALF HOUR PRESS CONFERENCE QADDAFI FOR FIRST

TIME PUBLICLY DISSOCIATED LIBYA FROM THE BLACK SEPTEMBER TERRORIST MURDERS IN KHARTOUM AND AT OLYMPICS, SAYING WE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT; WE DO NOT CARRY OUT THESE OPERATIONS; WE ARE SURPRISED BY CERTAIN OPERATIONS HERE AND THERE.

4. COMMENT. MONDAY NYTIMES COMMENTS PRESIDENT WILL HAVE TO TAKE SERIOUSLY WILL OF PEOPLE AS EXPRESSED IN RECENT HOUSE VOTE ON CAMBODIA. TIMES SAYS WASHINGTON'S TONE OF APPROACH TO PARIS TALKS CHANGED ABRUPTLY WHEN SECRETARY ROGERS CONCEDED THERE ARE VIOLATIONS ON BOTH SIDES, ADDING HE BELIEVES NORTH VIETNAMESE FUNDAMENTALLY WANT AGREEMENT TO WORK. BOTH ROGERS AND SULLIVAN, SAYS TIMES, HAVE ABANDONED THREATS AND SUGGESTED US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE COULD INDUCE HANOI TO COMPLY WITH PARIS AGREEMENTS. RUSH

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